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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: S. HAMAMOTO, et al

Serial No.: 09/977,950

Filed: October 17, 2001

For: REGULATION METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ATM CELL
DELAY VARIATION

Group: 2664

Examiner: K. Yao

Technology Center 2600

JAN 11 2002

RECEIVED

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

January 4, 2002

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please add new claims 11-40 as follows:

-- 11. A cell delay variation regulator in a cell assembly and disassembly apparatus,
comprising:

a variation regulating buffer temporarily storing cells transmitted from a

VPI/VCI separator;

a variation waiting timer controlling a waiting time from the time a top cell of
a burst is received to the time a reading operation of a cell from the variation regulating buffer
starts;

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